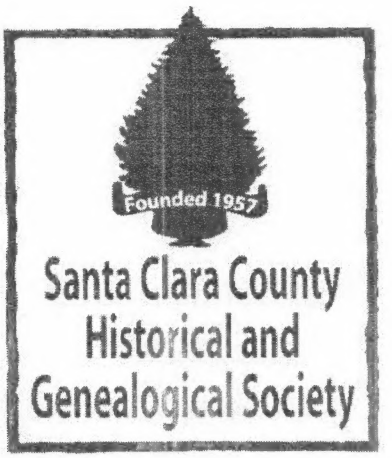
The Hermit of Glen Azalea
by Helen Jarret

Written as part of the Federal Writers' Project, a Works Progress Administration (WPA) Project, 1936

Notes:

- Original in possession of the Santa Clara County Archives, San Jose, California
- Scanned by the Santa Clara Historical and Genealogical Society



Federal Writers' Projects
District 9
Helen Jarret

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CLASS II HISTORICAL

THE HERMIT OF GLEN AZALEA

Near Loma Chiquita was the home of one of the most eccentric characters of the Santa Cruz mountains region--Dr. Keinbortz, hermit and misogynist.

A Civil war naval veteran, scholar, and nature lover; he transformed a tiny mountain valley into a paradise of flowers. His home was called "Glen Azalea" which was his favorite plant. Only to "God and the Flag", would he doff his hat; not to any woman. But this determined stand did not stop the women in the valley from going to admire his gorgeous flowers, to his chagrin. His end is shrouded in mystery. His home burned down, and he disappeared, so far as his neighbors knew. Others say he fled in despair when his mountain retreat went up in flames.

Source:

San Jose Mercury Herald June 3, 1934 Volume 125